

We claim:

1 1. A siding panel, comprising:
2 a sheet of polymeric material, said sheet including a molded central portion comprising a
3 plurality of adjacent shingle impressions of substantially the same length, each of said shingle
4 impressions including a bottom edge, at least one of said bottom edges being beveled to give the
5 appearance of shingles having different lengths.

1 2. The siding panel of claim 1, further comprising:
2 a first lateral edge portion containing a butt edge; and
3 a second lateral edge portion containing a nail edge and including a plurality of fastener
4 apertures therethrough, said first and second lateral edge portions being formed substantially
5 independently from said forming of said central portion while the polymeric material in said
6 central portion has a temperature below its heat deflection temperature and the polymeric
7 material in said first and second lateral edge portions is above its heat deflection temperature.

1 3. The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said shingle impressions are vacuum formed on a
2 rotating belt.

1 4. The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said polymeric material comprises polyvinyl
2 chloride.

1 5. The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said siding panel has a length of at least 10'.

1 6. The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said central portion comprises a thickness of about
2 .03-.125".

1 7. The siding panel of claim 1, wherein said shingle impressions are cedar shake shingle
2 impressions and a plurality of said bottom edges are beveled.

1 8. The siding panel of claim 7, wherein alternating bottom edges are beveled.

1 9. The siding panel of claim 7, wherein said plurality of said bottom edges are beveled in a
2 non-periodic pattern.

1 10. A continuously formed siding panel, comprising:
2 a sheet of polymeric material, including a central portion comprising a plurality of
3 adjacent shingle impressions of substantially the same length, each of said shingle impressions
4 including a bottom edge, a plurality of said bottom edges being beveled to give the appearance of
5 shingles having different lengths;
6 a butt edge disposed along a first lateral edge portion of said sheet; and
7 a nail edge disposed along a second lateral edge portion of said sheet, said butt edge and
8 said nail edge being formed substantially independently from said central portion.

1 11. The siding panel of claim 10, wherein said shingle impressions are vacuum formed, blow
2 molded, compression molded, transfer molded or injection molded.

1 12. The siding panel of claim 10, wherein said shingle impressions are cedar shake shingle
impressions.

1 13. The siding panel of claim 12, wherein alternating bottom edges are beveled.

1 14. The siding panel of claim 12, wherein said bottom edges are beveled in a non-periodic
2 pattern.

- 1 15. A continuously formed siding panel of substantially unlimited length, comprising:
2 an extruded sheet of polymeric material comprising polyvinyl chloride, said sheet
3 including a central vacuum-formed portion having a plurality of adjacent cedar shake shingle
4 impressions of substantially the same length, each of said cedar shake shingle impressions having
5 a bottom edge, a plurality of non-adjacent cedar shake shingles having a bottom which is beveled
6 to give the appearance of shingles having different lengths;
7 a butt edge disposed along a first lateral edge portion of said sheet; and
8 a nail edge disposed along a second lateral edge portion of said sheet, said lateral edge
9 portions formed after said central portion has been vacuum-formed and while the polymeric
10 material in said lateral edge portions is above the heat deflection point of said polymeric
11 material.
- 12 16. A method of manufacturing a shaped polymeric article, comprising the steps of:
13 providing a sheet of extruded hot polymeric material;
14 disposing said sheet onto a rotating belt, said rotating belt including a mold impression
15 therein and a plurality of apertures therethrough, said mold impression resembling a plurality of
16 adjacent shingle impressions of substantially the same length, each of said shingle impressions
17 including a bottom edge, at least one of said bottom edges being beveled to give the appearance
18 of shingles having different lengths;
19 applying vacuum pressure to said hot polymeric material through said belt, so as to draw
20 said sheet into intimate forming contact with said mold impression to form a patterned central
21 portion;
22 cooling said patterned sheet portion below a heat deflection temperature of said polymeric
23 material; and
24 severing a length of said shaped sheet to produce a shaped polymeric article.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein said vacuum pressure is applied to form a patterned central portion and a pair of lateral edge portion, said method further comprising the steps of:
further forming said lateral edge portions; and
cooling said lateral edge portions below said heat deflection temperature to produce a relatively continuous shaped sheet.

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